MANIA OF PETITIONS

Senator Hill Thinks a Reform Should Be Inaugurated.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE IN THE DISTRICT

Mr. Carter Moves to Recommit the Tariff Bill.

MATTERS IN THE HOUSE

Soon after the Senate session opened today Mr. Hill (N.Y.) spoke concerning the hundreds of petitions he was receiving frem all parts of the country as to the probibition of the sale of beer at Ellis Island, where immigrants arrive. The Senator said he could not see why the sale of beer to immigrants was a serious matter. "I am inclined to believe," said Mr. Hill, "that a glass of beer would be very welcome to these immigrants when landing in this country." This vast petitioning effort, proceeded Mr. Hill, by well meaning but misguided people was evidence of the "extreme Puritanism, the extreme Rooseveltism" in progress in New York. It was part of the crusade now going on. Mr. Hill said he had received many other petitions urging had received many other petitions urging Congress to adopt a "Sunday rest law" for the District of Columbia. He could not see what interest the people of New York had ip Sunday rest in the District of Columbia. "Unless it be." added Mr. Hill, with fine scorn, "to restrain their Senators and members of Congress in Washington." The Senator said he fully appreciated the sacred right of petition. But in these days of the telegraph and the press there was not the same need for this observance as in the felt that most of the petitions coming to Congress were packed away. To Junk Dealers.

"Go to junk dealers," suggested Mr. Allen

"Yes, my friend suggests that they go to junk shops," continued Mr. Hill, "where they possibly relieve the wants of the

Mr. Allen said his suggestion did not go to this extent. Mr. Hill went on to say that he would inflict this mass of petitions on the clerks, but he deprecated this "mania of petitions." He believed a reform should be inaugurated on lines already adopted by some of the states. He gave notice of an amendment to the rules which would permit petitions to be handed to the Senate officers without formal presentation.

Mr. Chandler said that as the New York Senator had called such conspicuous atten-tion to the subject, it would be well to have it understood that the present administra-tion of Ellis Island was quiet and orderly.

The Tariff Bill Again. Mr. Carter, one of the four republicans

who recently voted against taking up the tariff bill, presented the following resolu-

tion:
"Resolved, That the bill H. R. 2740 (tariff bill), reported by the committee on finance, with amendments, be recommitted to that committee for further consideration. Mr. Carter announced he would call up the resolution next Monday to address the Senate. In the meantime the resolution went to the table. There was much whispered comment over Mr. Carter's resolution. Another Bond Investigation Resolu-

tion. Mr. Lodge presented a resolution directing the finance committee to investigate and report on circumstances attending the sale of United States bonds during 1894-5-6, and the disposition of the proceeds of such sales. The resolution went over. It is substantially the same as the resolution which lost its parliamentary status yes-terday by Mr. Hell's speech, carrying the debate up to 2 o'clock, except that it di-rects the finance committee instead of a

Distonatic Bill Passed. The diplomatic and consular appropria-

tion bill was taken up at 2 o'clock, and after some discussion it was passed.

The conference report on the urgent deficlency bill was presented and agreed to.

secial committee to make the investiga

Caban Resolutions Tomorrow. Mr. Call endeavored to go on with the Cuban resolutions, but they went over until tomorrow, with the understanding that they would be the first thing considered. Mr. Morgan (Ala.), who reported the Cuban resolutions, gave formal notice that he would move to take them up at 2 o'clock totorrow. The Senate then took up private pension

bills on the calendar and passed a large

Some routine business was transacted at the opening of the House today. The bill which was under consideration when the House adjourned vesterday to extend for five years the time within which suits might be brought to vacate and annul patents to public lands issued under railre Mexican or other special grants, was called up by Mr. Lacey, chairman of the commitee on public lands.

The purpose of the committee, Mr. Lacey

said, was to protect bona fide purchasers, and all the possible safeguards had been thrown about them in the bill. The substitute for the bill offered by Mr. McRae (Ark.) to repeal outright the limitation of the act of 1801 was defeated, 42-63. On the demand of Mr. McRae, the vote taken by yeas and nays. The substitute was defeated, 72-149. The bill as amended was passed. The House then went into committee of the whole and took up the consideration of the army appropriation bill.

Army Appropriations.

Mr. Hull (lowa), chairman of the committee on military affairs, said the bill carried \$23,275,902, a reduction from the estimates of \$817,373, and an increase of \$23,-29) over the appropriation for the current

MAY SMITH'S STORY.

She Tells of a Talk With Jackson Be-

fore the Pearl Bryan Murder. CINCINNATI, Obio, February 19.-Two morning papers publish a startling statement made to them by Miss May Smith of Louisville, who is acquainted with the accused murderers Walling and Jackson. She says she was in Cincinnati January 14. and took supper with Jackson at a restaurant. Jackson told her that his friend, Will Wood, at Greencastle, Ind., had got into trouble with a girl, and that Wood was going to send the girl here, and he would put her out of the way. Miss Smith says she cautioned Jackson of the danger of discovery in such an enterprise. He said he was too smart to be discovered. She said after the morder Jackson wrote to her, saying that he had disposed of the girl-meaning Pearl Bryan-by "-"
The long dash in the letter was left for Miss Smith to fill in from her memory of

the conversation at the restaurant. LOUISVILLE, Ky., February 19.-Inves tigation in this city into the life of May Smith, who is connected with Jackson and Walling in the Pearl Bryan affair, develops the fact that she came here early in January, being employed by Bryon Lister and wife in the dress cutting business. The Listers opened up an establishment here January 4 at 621 4th avenue. Lister had been fermerly with Mrs. Fuson's cutting school in Cincinnati.

A few days after opening up their estab-lishment, adjoining their residence, they were joined by May Smith, who came from Fuson's school to teach for Mr. and

She remained there until Saturday night She remained there until Saturday mgnt a week ago, when her brother, from Covington, Ky, called for her to take her home.

Mr. Lister said this morning that on reading the first account of the affair the girl appeared horrified, as she had been in correspondence with hoth Jackson and Walrespondence with both Jackson and Wal-Ling, and had told Mrs. Lister that she was er gaged to Walling. Mrs. Lister had seen letters addressed to both men.

When the account came out in the news papers that May Smith had also been operated on by Walling and Jackson the girl stoutly denied it. May Smith is be-tween sixteen and twenty years of age, and has dark eyes and black hair, and is quite

THE EVENING STAR'S average daily circulation during the year 1895 was 31,871, reaching 82½ per cent of all the occupied houses in Washington. This is much more than three times the number of subscribers actually served by any other one newspaper in Washington. It is, moreover, a bona fide, regular and permanent circulation, taken and paid for at full published rates, and almost wholly by the households and family circles of the City, who want and pay for the paper for what it contains. No copies are given away, or sold at a nominal price, in order to make a showing with which to deceive unwary advertisers, as is the custom with some publishers.

THE LINCOLN MONUMENT

What Mr. Evans, Who Introduced the Bill, Says.

No Adequate Expression of Admira tion for the Martyred President at the Capital.

There is hearty approval, both in congres sional circles and out, of the bill introduced by Mr. Evans of Kentucky in the House yesterday for the erection of a monument at the capital here to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. The hope is expressed that it may become a law, and that before the end of the century the work may be completed.

What Mr. Evans himself says on the subject is very generally echoed by those who approve of his proposition. Referring to his bill in conversation with a representative of The Star, the Kentucky Congressman remarked:

What Mr. Evans Says.

"In strolling about the city I have often commented to myself on the absence of any adequate expression here of the great admiration in which the character of Mr. Lincoln is held by all of the people of this country now. Such an expression belongs here, for, more than any other American since Washington, he stands for the re-public in the affectionate remembrances of mankind. His fame has risen superior to all former factional or sectional differ-ences, and this being the capital of the country, there should be something ap-propriate here to mark the estimation in which the man's character and services are held. I have no plan or site to suggest. My only desire is that a fitting monument be erected, and I do not think half a mil-lion dollars too much to spend on what, when completed, would, I am sure, meet with universal approval."

The bill has been referred to the commit

tee on appropriations, and, not unlikely, Mr. Evans will go before the committee and urge favorable action on it.

The Monument at Springfield. Discussion of this matter recalls the fact that the Lincoln monument at Springfield, Iil., has never been properly kept. In fact the regligeree exhibited has been so marked at times public complaint has been of the railroad problem there. made. This has not been due to any loss of love or respect for Mr. Lincoln's mem-ory by his old friends and neighbors, but is attributed to the fact that Springfield being a small capital, the care of public buildings and monuments, which are few, is not very thorough or systematic. In Washington, of course, this is very different. Trained men are employed for the work and the outlay is always sufficient to insure the presentableness of all such dec-orations. Such a monument, therefore, as is comprehended in Mr. Evans' bill would not only meet the eyes of thousands of people-strangers from abroad among the number-whose travels do not lead them to Springfield, but would be a wellkept object of beauty and impressiveness at all times for everybody.

KINSEY'S PLURALITY S0,963.

Sweep Made by the Republicans in Philadeiphia.

PHILADELPHIA, February 19.-The plurality of 80,903 given yesterday for John L. Kinsey, the republican candidate for city solicitor in this city, has been passed only cnce. In 1894 Gov. Hastings got a "tidal wave" plurality of 85,132. In the select council the democrats have only three out of thirty-seven members, a loss of four. All of the morning papers agree that re

form was "snowed under." In many instances councilmanic candidates opposed vigorously by the Municipal League were re-elected by larger majorities than ever before, notwithstanding the appeals issued by the league to citizens "to elect a better class of men to councils, who will give the people better water, better gas, municipal ownership of electric lights and cheaper street car fares," and incidentally "over-throw the besses." For the first time since its organization the league ran a candidate on the general ticket in the person of Joan A. McCarthy for magistrate. Out of 185,491

This is regarded by many as the strength of the league in this city, although the vote was so cut up by ward lights that it is difficult to estimate the actual number of league ballots cast.

In the state there were many surprises

Republicans carried democratic holds and democrats vere successful where republicans had formerly held sway. This was due in every instance to local conditions. The greater number of victories are, however, to be credited to the repub licans.

Probably the most interesting fight in the state, outside of Fittsburg, was in Scranton, where ex-Mayor Connell and Congressman Scranton, leaders of rival republican factions, had a bitter fight. The latter was successful with the aid of democratic votes, electing James G. Bailey (democrat) mayor and the balance of the demo-cratic ticket by about 500 plurality. Mr. Scranton bolted the republican convention and nominated a rival ticket, but afterward witherew his candidates and supported the

At Reading, in a total vote of over 11 000 Jacob Weidel, democrat, was elected mayor by 164 majority. They also elected Henry G. Young city treasurer; but Adam H. Leader, republican, was chosen controller treasurer; but Adam H. by a big majority. At York, after a hot fight, Charles W. Brant, democrat, was elected mayor by 28 majority. Altoona George Harpham, republican, controller, by about 200 majority. Last night the election of the democratic opponents was conceded. The rest of the republican ticket got 88 The democrats gained three com-

mon councilmen. The unexpected happened at Williamsport, where, in a hot three-cornered fight, the prohibitionists elected James Mansel mayor by about 300 plurality.

Has Been Promoted.

Mr. George M. Bond, who has been for a number of years the city passenger agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company, has been promoted to the position of district passenger agent of the company, with headquarters at 1421 Pennsylvania

Miss Barton to Be Protected. Minister Terrell at Pera, Turkey, has cabled Secretary Olney that he presented Miss Barton at the sublime porte and received renewed assurances of full protection and aid for her agents in dispensing charity. and aid for her agencs in dispensing charmy.

Her assistants go at once to the interior of
Turkey, while Miss Barton's headquarters will be established at Pera, the diplomatic suburb of Constantinople. Mr. Terrell, who has labored hard with the Turkish government to secure these privileges for Miss Barton, closes his cablegram in these words:

"The door is thus opened wide for charity."

GRADE CROSSINGS THEY WILL PARADE DISTRICT AFFAIRS

A Hearing by the Senate District Committee Today.

COMMISSIONERS' BILL CONSIDERED

Members of the Board of Trade Give Their Views.

MR. M'MILLAN'S SUGGESTION

There was a hearing before the Senate committee on the District of Columbia today on Senate bill 1926, generally known as the Commissioners' bill to abolish grade crossings. There were present Senators McMillan, Proctor and Faulkner.

The hearing was given specially in order that a committee of the board of trade might present a statement in regard to the measure, and from that body there were present Messrs. Frank Hume, C. B. Church, J. H. Johnson, S. W. Curriden, T. A. Lambert, J. C. Ergood and W. J. Frizzell. Mr. Evan H. Tucker president of the Milltary Band. that a committee of the board of trade zell. Mr. Evan H. Tucker, president of the East Washington Citizens' Association, was also present, and Mr. W. J. Frizzell represented the citizens' association as well

as the board of trade. Mr. Hume was the first to submit remarks on the bill, and he said that if the Commissioners' bill limiting the time when grade crossings should be permitted to exist were passed he thought there was a speedy way to solve the problem of such crossings. He said that Senate bill 1702, also to abolish grade crossings, had received the qualified indorsement of the railread committee of the board of trade. There were some changes that might be made in matters of engineering, but as a whole the measure had the indorsement of the board of trade. Mr. McMillan, chairman of the committee, here suggested that the bill referred to had been gotten up very carefully. carefully.

He said that if the board of trade would se its influence together with the Senate and House committees in endeavoring to bring about an agreement on some one plan that might be adopted by both the en-gineers of the railroad companies and by the Commissioners such action would greatly assist in advancing the work of do-ing away with grade crossings. He said the difficulty with this problem was that through inability to agree upon some plan the whole subject might be allowed to drag along year after year without the accomplishment of anything of consequence. Mr. Hume replied that the board of trade had pursued the course that Mr. McMillan suggested in many of its efforts to bring

about railroad legislation.

Mr. McMillan said he noticed that the board of trade favored a plan which involved having the Pennsylvania railroad purchase property on Pennsylvania avenue and there locate its depot.

Mr. C. B. Church here suggested that that

plan had long ago been approved by the board of trade, but it had long been aban-doned. He said it was not now insisted Mr. S. W. Curriden spoke especially in favor of the bill as it relates to the inter-

sts of Northeast Washington. Mr. T. A. Lambert then addressed the committee on the measure, and made a comprehensive, but comparatively brief, argument covering the subject. He thought that as an initiative measure the Commissioners' bill to limit the time when grade crossings may exist would have an excellent effect. lent effect.
Mr. W. J. Frizzell also presented his

views on the Commissioners' bill, and urged the great necessity of Northeast Washington for the satisfactory solution

IT WAS LIQUOR.

A Tonic Name Was Not a Legal Protection.

Members of the jury in Judge Miller's curt today acted as a sampling committee when an alleged unlicensed bar case from the "mile limit" was on hearing. The defendant in the case was William Gifford and it was charged that he had kept an unlicensed bar because he had sold a certain kind of bitters. A bottle of the bitters was produced by Presecuting Atterney Pugh and soon the bottle was upturned and members of the jury took a drink, an unusual occurrence in a court of

Policeman Willingham, who was the rincipal witness in the case, told of how ic went to the "cider house" of the de fendant in the costume of a countryman a rainy night and the policeman's clothing

"And you wanted something to keep the old out?" queried Mr. Pugh.
"Yes, sir," the policeman answered.
The officer said he was unable to get beer r whisky, and finally he came down to the bitters tonic and paid 10 cents a drink for

Mr. Pugh said that the bottle purchased from the defendant had been turned over to him by the officer and he thought that he empty bottle was in his office.
"Then," said the court, jokingly, "you would make a good witness, I have no Prof. Hird told of the analysis he had

He found that the liquid contained more than 11 per cent alcohol by weight and more than 13 per cent by volume. There is no standard for intexicants here, said witness, but in Connecticut the law fixes the standard at 3 per cent. The defendant admitted the sale of the bitters and said he was assured by the manufacturer that the bitters was a non-

atoxicant and did not come within the pro-risions of the law. Defendant thought that the manufacturer should have been prose-Mr. Pugh argued the case to the jury and claimed a conviction, referring to the state-ment of the officer that two drinks had

affected him and also to the testimony of Judge Miller charged the jury, and a verlict of guilty was rendered. Mr. Pugh said he thought that Gifford

had acted in good faith in the matter and had assisted the government in the investigation. Judge Miller, commenting on the case, said the bitters were made for the purpose

of selling in places where the sale of liquor is not permitted. He thought it is far more dangerous to sell an article of this kind than it is to sell plain whisky. Some people, he thought, seem to have an idea that the salvation of the world requires the sale of liquor in the mile limit. The judge spoke at length of the danger of selling these kinds of drinks, and, acting upon the suggestion of the prosecuting attorney, sus-pended sentence in the case. In doing so the judge said that hereafter all subtertages in the "mile limit" will meet with the severest penalties.

DISTRICT IN CONGRESS.

Marriages in the District. In the Senate this afternoon Mr. Faulkner called up Senate bill 1904 to regulate marriages in the District of Columbia

The bill was discussed in some of its features, and finally was allowed to go over until tomorrow upon suggestion of Mr. Hoar of Massachusetts.

Mr. Faulkner offered a further amendment to the bill, making the age at which a female may receive a license to marry without the consent of parent or guardian eighteen instead of twenty-one years, as proposed in the bill. Another amendment was offered, which applies in the case of a forelement of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment was offered, which applies in the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Scheiner of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the bill. Another amendment of the case of a specific proposed in the case of a specific foreigner who shall certify that he complied with the marriage laws in his own country before being granted leave to take unto himself a wife. The bill will come up in the Senate tomorrow, when some action will probably be taken upon it.

Columbia Telephone Company. Senators Proctor and Bacon gave a hearing shortly after 3 o'clock today to advocates of a bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. McM.llan to incorporate the Columbia Telephone Company. Appearing in the interest of this bill was Maj. Butterworth, John A. Baker, T. A. Lambert, T. C. Daniel and W. G. Waggaman.

A heavy fall of muddy colored snow occurred last evening in northern Illinois, southern Wisconsin, western Indiana and

Boys in Blue to Henor Washington's Birthday.

Organizations That Will Participate Include High School Cadets and National Guard.

Unless the condition of the weather should prevent, the celebration of Washington's birthday Saturday next will be marked by a military display of no insignificant propor tions. Although no orders have as yet been issued, it may be stated that the parade will be in command of Col. Wm. G. Moore, who, of course, will ride at the head of the line, attended by his stanf of the first regiment, D. C. N. G. The Marine Band will head the Washing-

ton Light Infantry Corps, under command of Major Burton R. Ross, and wearing the ful! dress uniform of the National Guard. In the line will also appear the National Rifles, Capt. James F. Oyster, in red coats

headed by Whi Haley & Military Band.

The Corcoran Cadet Corps, Capt. Eugene C. Edwards, wearing for the first time the new uniform of white coats with blue helmets and white plumes, will be in the parade, as will the Morton Cadets, Capt. parade, as will the Morton Cadets, Capt. Edgar A. Shilling, attired in the new company fatigue uniforms, it being the first appearance of the cadets in parade thus clothed.

clothed.

A striking feature of the parade will be the regiment of High School Cadets, eight companies, under command of Col. Juius Sommer. The cadets will parade as two battalions and will be headed by the band of the sixth United States cavalry from Fort Myer. Col. Sommer, Maj. Fox and Maj. Graff, with their staffs, will be mounted. The cadets, of course, will wear the well-known High School uniform, but they will be the only organization in line with the new United States army regulation

Caps.
The Veteran Volunteer Firemen will not be absent from the parade, and it is prob-able that the Gonzaga College Cadets, with the Gonzaga Drum Corps, will also turn The

companies will rendezvous at 3d street and Pennsylvania avenue northwest, and the parade will start at 3 o'clock. The line of march, as now arranged, will be west on Pennsylvania avenue to 15th street, to K street, to 19th street, to Pennsylvania avenue, to 15th street and New York avenue, where the parade will be disnessed. The latter point is central for all the companies.

As has been the custom for the past few years the companies of the High School Cadets will come together for regimental formation at 13th street and New York avenue, and from there march to the place of rendezvous, 3d street and Pennsylvania It is a bare possibility that the regular

troops from Fort Myer and the Washing-ton barracks may participate in the parade, but no orders to that effect have as ye Col. Moore requests that all commanding officers of organizations desiring to partici-pate in the parade meet him at 7 o'clock tomorrow evening at the armory of the Washington Light Infantry Corps, in order

that the order of the parade and other details may be perfected. Those citizens desiring to witness an exhibition of maneuvers practically military and without display will be given the de-sired opoprumity. Col. Clay has ordered the entire second regiment of the District of Columbia National Guard to report at 10 o'clock Saturday morning, in the regula-tion government fatigue uniforms. The command will march westward to K street to the vicinity of Washington Circle, and there go through some ceremony and drill,

appearance of the band in parade, and the members will wear new regulation band uniforms, just received from the quartermaster's department at Philadelphia Company A, first separate battalion (colored), D. C. N. G., Capt. Arthur Brooks, and the colored High School Cadets will starting at 2 p.m. The Capital City Band will lead the parade. Maj. Chas. Mirkins will be in command of the battalion of cadets, and will have for his aid Adjt. Frank H Burgess. Company A will be com-manded by Capt. Roscoe C. Bruce, and company B by Capt. Clarence Wormly.

NOTHING KNOWN HERE

Of the Reported Curt Note to the Spanish Government.

If Mr. Hannis Taylor, United States minister to Madrid, has, as is reported on the authority of a Spanish ne vspaper, addressed a curt note to the Spanish government demanding an explanation of an alleged attack made upon the United States in an address delivered by Senor Convas before a geographical society, then the minister has acted entirely upon his own responsi-bility, for nothing of the subject matter of the complaint is known at the State Department. It is felt here that the facts can not be as represented, or at least there must be other facts not stated in the cable assumed, base an official complaint upon an address entirely lacking, as this appears to have been, in official character. It is nt presumed here that our ministers abread can take cognizance of all criticisms passed upon their country by indi-

viduals before private gatherings. Mr. Taylor's Note.

MADRID, February 19 .- The Imparcial today credits the story published by the Herald yesterday, and cabled exclusively to the Associated Press last night, saying that Mr. Hannis Taylor, the United States minister here, has addressed a curt note to the Spanish government, demanding explanations regarding an address delivered before a geographical society by Senpr Convas, who commanded the caravel Santa Maria, which was sent by Spain to the Columbian In this address Senor Convas gave his

Commissioners Favor Civil Service for Local Offices.

REPORT TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE

Regulations Fixing the Legal Width of Tires.

OTHER LOCAL NOTES

The Commissioners, in a report upon Senate bill 1992, to regulate appointments and promotions in the municipal government of the District of Columbia and in the offices of the recorder of deeds and the register of wills, give it their unqualified approval and recommend its early enactment. This is the District civil service bill and was introduced at the request of the Commissioners. Their report in full is as follows: "This bill has the approval of the United

States civil service commission. The Dis-trict Commissioners are deeply impressed with the necessity for the legislation pro-posed therein. They have in mind some in-stances in which the business of this municipality has suffered in consequence of the incapacity of employes who had been appointed without having had their quali-fications previously determined by examination under civil service rules. In their judgment the offices of the District gov-ernment should be conducted on the principles and in the manner applicable to those governing the successful conduct of other large business interests, and these reasons apply in a higher degree to this municipality because its government is non-partisan in character. During the past fiscal year the Commissioners introduced a system of competitive examinations for clerical, professional and police duties, the results of which have been of such a satisfactory character as to confirm them in their belief in the efficiency of that system. "The Commissioners have no doubt that

the reasons which make advisable the extension of the civil service rule to appointments and prometions in the municipal government of the District apply with equal force to the other offices mentioned in the bill. The only one of those offices with whose records the District is intinately concerned is the office of the re-corder of deeds. The municipal tax of-fices depend upon the records of the recorder of deeds, and the transcript of those records which the law requires the recorder of deeds to furnish them, for proper descriptions of the bounds, location and ownership of real property, upon which as-sessments and descriptions of taxes are based, as it is from time to time transferred from one owner to another, and 't is of paramount importance to the District that the copyists and officials who record and transcribe this information should possess the highest attainable qualifications for those duties. The Commissioners are satisfied that the enactment of the bill would result in the betterment of every branch of the local government to which it is intended to apply.

Adverse Action. The Commissioners today recommended adverse action upon Senate bill 1653, for the relief of John Murphy & Co. This bill has for its object the return of \$200 which the Commissioners retained because of the failure of Murphy & Co. to enter into contract with the District for furnishing school books. The money was in the shape school books. The money was in the shape of a guarantee deposit, insuring good favorite sons out of the way, the four states named would each show a substantial majority for Mr. McKiniey. If this is true, cannot this support be commanded on the first ballot at St. Louis? And if it can be commanded to the first ballot at St. Louis? And if it can be commanded ought not it to be? And is there a better method of clearing the decks of candidates alleged to be superfluous than the one proposed by Mr. Thurston for adoptivele. Manhattan and Burlington reflected and later parade down Pennsylvania avenme and back to the armory. The regiment will be headed by the new Second
Regiment Band, under the direction of
Lieut. D. B. Macked. It will be the first guarantee under the circumstances

Street Railway Laws.

In a letter to Chairman McMillan of the Senate District committee the Commissioners today say with reference to the compilation of the street railway laws of the District that they have a collection of these laws, and with little trouble they could be arranged for the printer. The expense of the compilation would be confined, they say, practically to the printing and binding of the volume.

Width of Tires.

A most important amendment to the police regulations is now under consideration by the Commissioners. It is one which relates to the width of tires for vehicles. For many years this has been a subject

of grave concern on the part of the street department, which has been called upon to expend large sums of money for the re-pair of asphalt pavements, which have been ruined by narrow tired wheels. The Cemmissioners have convinced themselves as to their authority under the police regulations to make such a regulation, and are about to take action.

The following is the proposed amendment: "It shall be unlawful for any per-

son or persons to transport, haul or con-vey, or cause the same to be done, any lead, weight or burden over or through any of the public streets, avenues or alleys of the city of Washington on any wagen or other wheeled vehicle having a tire of less than the fellowing widths for the following loads in ton weights of 2,000 pounds, the weight of the vehicle included; On fourwheeled vehicles, for any load or burden exceeding one and one-half tons weight, and net exceeding two and one-half tons weight (the weight of the wagon or other four-wheeled venicle included), not less than 2 1-4 inches in width. For any load or burden exceeding two and one-half tons weight, and not exceeding six tons weight (the weight of the wason or other four-wheeled vehicle included), not less than three inches. For any load or purden ex-ceeding six tons weight and not exceeding eight tens weight (the weight of the wagon or other four-wheeled vehicle included) not less than 3 1-4 inches. For any load or burden exceeding eight tons weight (the weight of the wagon or other four-wheeled vehicle included), not less than four inches. On all two-wheeled vehicles used for like purposes, the width of the tire

The Washington Channel. The Commissioners are awaiting with a great deal of interest the map which is now being prepared by the War Department establishing the Washington channel, as well at the bulkhead line of the don Buying. water front. When this is received the

water front. When this is received the Commissioners will at once proceed with a view of widening Water street. This is considered one of the most important, as well as necessary, improvements in the city. Already the street is crowded with street car tracks, and a number of buildings project into the street. A suit is now pending relative to the ownership of Water street, and a decision is shortly expected from the Supreme Court in the matter. The matter came before the Commissioners today in the shape of an application from Mr. E. M. Willis, who desired to further occupy Water street pending the decision of the Supreme Court. His application was for a permit to erect another ice house in the disputed territory, but Commissioner Powell, to whom the application was made, thought it wise to allow matters to remain as they are until the matter was finally adjudicated. He said, however, that the Commissioners might look with favor upon the application, if after the map from the War Department was received, it was demonstrated that the proposed building would not interfere with the plan of widening. of widening.

THE BULL BY THE HORNS

What the McKinley People Will Do, According to Senator Thurston.

They Will Contest With Favorite Sons for Delegates From Their Respective States.

The speech of Senator Thurston before the Lincoln Club, at Lincoln, Neb., last night, is accepted as evidence that in the matter of multiplying presidential candidates for presentation to the St. Louis convention the McKinley people have decided to take the bull by the horns. Ex-Senator Manderson is an avowed candidate for the presidency, and yet Mr. Thurston says that eight out of every ten of the Nebraska republicans are in favor of Mr. McKinley, and he asks that steps be taken in the selection of delegates to St. Louis to make that fact entirely clear. He says that the delegation should be made up "in such a way that it cannot be used for barter."

Very Plain Talk.

This is very plain talk, and well calcu-

lated to arouse Mr. Manderson and his

friends. Will they proceed now to contest the state with the McKinley people? Will it not be necessary for them to do so in order to give the ex-Senator's candidacy the aspect of seriousness? If Manderson delegates are to be secured elsewhere, it will be necessary, it is insisted, to show that his own state is behind the candidate. And more than this. If by the prompt challenge of the opposition in Nebraska the McKinley people are permitted to triumpn in that state over a local candidate, how long will it be until they may be expected to execute a similar maneuver in other states, where, as they charge, local candidates have been brought out to divide Me-Kinley strength? Will not a Thurston arise in New York, Pennsylvania, Minnesota and Illinois, and ask such action as will put to the test the real strength and the real purpose of the Morton, the Quay, the Davis and the Cullom booms? There is talk of "barter" in all four of those cases, and especially in the cases of Mr. Morton and Mr. Quay. It is insisted that, with those

Booms and Booms. There are booms and booms. The Quay

boom and the Morton boom are not in the same class in popular speculation with the Davis, the Cullom and the Manderson booms. The Quay boom is thought to have no other purpose but to invest the Pennsyl vania Senator with some of the powers of Warwick at St. Louis. He wants to name the candidate, and then take charge of the candidate's campaign. The Morton boom is accepted as sincere enough, so far as Mr Morton himself is concerned, but the fact that Thomas C. Platt is in charge raises a doubt as to what the final play will be. In the other cases vice presidential aspirations are suspected. On a ticket with Mr. Reed at the head either Mr. Davis, Mr. Culiom r Mr. Manderson would make a good race. Mr. Manderson, particularly, with his record as a soldier, would, it is thought, prove an admirable yoke-fellow for the Mainman, whose part in the civil war was slight.

Effect of Mckinley's Success. The nomination of Mr. McKinley would, of course, put the nose of every western aspirant for second place out of joint. An eastern man in that event would be necessary, and Mr. Platt shows no desire to accept the second place for any of his friends. His own aspirations are for a place in the cabinet, and he will not feel sure of that unless he can put the head of the ticket under heavy obligations.

BALL ENDED IN DEATH.

Thirty-Four Bodies Taken From a

Burned Building. LISBON, February 19 -Great loss of life attended the breaking cut of a fire in San Tarea last night while an artists club's masked bell was in progress. Thirty-four bodies have thus far been recovered. Many were injured by jumping from the win-

Washington Stock Exchange. Sales-regular call-12 o'clock m.-Metropolitan

Sales—regular cali—12 o'clock m.—Metropolitan Ratiroad 6s, \$2,000 at 113; \$1,000 at 113; \$1,000 at 112%; \$1,000 at 112%; \$1,000 at 112%; \$2,000 at 112%; \$2,000 at 112%. Washington Loan and Trust, 5 at 119%. Capital Traction, 20 at 71; 20 at 71; 20 at 71; 40 at 71. U. S. Electric Light, 10 at 125%; 10 at 125%; 10 at 125%. Chesapeake and Potomae Telephone, 10 at 53%. Lanston Mono-type, 50 at 7%. which was sent by Spain to the Columbia business of the state of the wagon or notes four-wheel states in language which Minister Taylor is proposed to the United States in language which Minister Taylor developed the Compose of the Wagon or notes of the United States in language which Minister Taylor developed the United States and Compose the United States and Compose

ing, Conduit road near Frankfort street, to FINANCE AND TRADE cost \$1,000,

VOLUME CF BUSINESS CONTRACTED

Strength of the New Government Bonds.

GENERAL MARKET

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, February 19.-London buying was again apparent in local stock ope rations this morning, and fractional advances were consequently reflected in a majority of the active issues. The volume of business was even more contracted than yesterday, evidence of an almost complete' exhaustion of the buying power being decidedly procounced.

The market has steadily increased in narrowness of late and no significant broadening is probable prior to a reaction of proportions sufficient to force realizing on

weakly-held securities. Sentiment is strongly optimistic and public interest would undoubtedly be attracted by a reaction of two or three per cent. The holiday Saturday-will afford an excellent

hoiiday Saturday-will afford an excellent opportunity for profit taking, as well as supplying a conventional excuse for such action. The street is heavily long of stocks on which large sums of money have been borrowed, and on which there will be no opportunity of realizing any profit during the approaching holiday and the Sunday immediately following.

This fact, coupled with the manifest want of energy at the present level, may result in a moderate setback in values toward the end of the week. Commission houses generally attribute the absence of houses generally attribute the absence of a public demand to the fact that advances from the ranic level have extended to ten

and twenty per cent without a reaction of any material importance.

The strength of the new government bonds, sales being recorded today up to 117 3-4, was generally regarded as indicating continued confidence in the wisdom of the recent course of values, and may trevent the fallillment of sections are recorded. prevent the fulfillment of reactionary pre-

The declaration of the regular 1 per cent dividend on Burlington at today's meeting of directors caused some covering in that stock, the price improving 1 per cent in consequence. The reports of earnings, on which this decision was based, while showing less than the full annual rate carned, are generally believed to be the last of a long list of unfavorable statements.

Ing list of unfavorable statements.

The prospects for a profitable spring season are encouraging, so much so, in fact, that the fractional discrepancy between the amount of dividend to be paid and the amount actually earned will be more than provided for during the coming busy sea-son. The balance of the granger shares vere steady within fractional limits of opening prices.
Sugar was active and irregular under icalizing sales, and some extension of the long amount, the price yielding from 116 to 114 7-8, and subsequently rallying under rew buying. The log,c of the advance in Sugar is generally admitted, and confidence

in more substantial results is practically unanimou The market for sterling and continental bills was so dull that an accurate estimate of rates was impossible. Bankers report a supply of accommodations full up to all probable requirements, and express satisfaction with the outlook for a normal

was any material decline noted.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERICIAL.

The following are the opening, the highest and the lowest and the closing prices of the by Corson & Macariney, members New York steck exchange. Correspondents Messrs. Moore & Schley, No. 80 Broadway.

 American Sugar
 Op-in.
 High.
 Low.
 Last

 American Sugar, Pfd
 105%
 146
 184%
 115%

 American Sugar, Pfd
 100%
 100%
 100%
 100%
 100%

 American Tobacco.
 80
 80%
 79%
 80
 1634 16% Canada Pacific. Chesapeake & Ohi)..... hicago, B. & Q. 18% 10% 104% 68 hic a Northwestern. 1044 1044 hic a Northwestern. 084 1044 Chicago Gas, Cfs. 08 685 C. M. & St. Paul. 775 Chicago Gas, Cfs..... C. M. & St. Paul.
C. M. & St. Paul. Pfd.
Chic., R. I. & Pacific.
Del., Lack. & W. 73 73 129 47 belaware & Endson. Den. & R. Grande, Pfd. Dis. & Cattle Feeding.
General Electric.
Himos Central
Lake Shore. | Lake Shore | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% | 16% N. Y. C. & St. Los Northern Pacific. Northern Pacine, Pfd . 15% Northern Pacine, Pfd . 15% North American . 5% Ont. & Western . 15% Pacific Mail. 13% Pumman gal. Car Co. Soutaern Railway, Pid .. Pana Traction
Texas Pacale
Tenn. Coal & Iron.
Union Pacale Wabash, Pfd 185, Wheeling & L. Erie 187, Wheeling & L. Erie 187, Wheeling & L. Erie, Pfd 867, Western Union 1el 867,

Wisconsia Central..... Suver..... Grain and Cotton Markets.

Furnished by W. B. Hibbs & Co., 1421 P street, members New York sto Messrs, Ladenburg, Thatmann & Co., New York.

GRAIN 61.5 6.5 20.5 20.5 20.5 10.12 5.70 5.15 5.25 Corn—Stay. Oats—May..... Pork—May.... Lard-May..... Ju.y Open, High, Law, Close, 7 09 7.58 7.48 7.50 7.54 7.61 7.54 7.61 7.50 7.66 7.58 7.0 7.62 7.68 7.61 7.61 Month.

Beltimore Markets.

BALTIMORE, February 19.—Flour quiet, unchanged—receipts, 16,409 barrels; shipmeans, 20,145 barrels; sales, 582 barrels. Wheat dast—spot, 73½ bid; month, 74 asked; May, 715;1715; receipts, 4,803 bushels; stock, 140,700 bushels; sales, 5,000 bushels—southern wheat by sample, 74,75; do. on grade, 71½,474½. Corn easy—spot, 33½,332%; month, 33½,333½; March, 33½,333%; Aprell, 33½a,31½; May, 34½,235; steamer mix d, 32,332%, exceipts, 95,725 bushels; shipmens, 151,233 bushels; stock, 1,273,279 bushels; sales, 103,000 bushels—southern white and yellow eorn, 53½a,33; Orts steady—No, 2 white western, 28,28½; No. 2 mixed do., 26a,264½—receipts, 750 bushels; stock, 42,674 bushels, Rye qu'et and steady—No. 2, 34a,45 nearby; 47a,48 western—receipts, 142 bushels; stock, BALTIMORE, February 19.-Flour quiet do., 26a26b, receipts, to the bushels. Rye qu'et and stendy—No. 2, 44a45 nearby; 47a48 western—receipts, 142 bushels; stock, 25,547 bushels. Hay firm—choice timothy, \$16.00 asked. Grain freights, some activity shown, unchanged. Sugar firm, unchanged. Butter stendy and firm—fancy creamery, 20a1; do, imitation, 16a, 17; do, ladie, 14; good ladie, 12a43; store packed, \$a10. Ergs weak—fresh, 13; cold storage and ilmed, 10. Cheese steady, unchanged. Whisky unchanged.

Failed to Pay Allmony Judge Hagner this afternoon ordered the marshal to take Hollister G. Pond into cus-

tody for contempt of court in failing to pay his wife, Rose L. Pond, \$120 back allmony. The judge directed, however, that if the money should be paid today the man, who is being sued for divorce, should be released from liability for contempt.